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Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01
L-03 H-01 IOE-00 /093 W
----------041613Z 023497 /46
P R 041504Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2066
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

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FROM ECA DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECA, OCON
SUBJECT: US ASSISTANCE TO ECA

REF: KINSHASA 1785

1. DURING AMBASSADOR BOLEN'S MARCH 1 CONVERSATION WITH DR. ADEDEJI, THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF ECA, ADEDEJI EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR PAST AND CURRENT US ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO ECA AND TO AFRICA IN GENERAL. HE NOTED THAT HE IS USING THE FORMAT OF THE USAID-ECA AGREEMENT AS A MODEL FOR ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER DONORS. ADEDEJI THEN MENTIONED THREE PROJECTS WHERE FURTHER HELP WOULD BE WELCOME EITHER THROUGH ECA OR DIRECTLY TO AFRICAN NATIONS. FIRST, THE REGIONAL REMOTE SENSING PROGRAM, ALTHOUGH MOVING ALONG WELL IN CERTAIN AREAS, FACES A MAJOR FUNDING PROBLEM FOR THE ZAIRE COMPONENTS. ACCORDING TO ADEDEJI THE GOZ WAS VERY DISAPPOINTED THAT NO DONORS OFFERED TO ASSIST ZAIRE DURING THE RECENT DONOR'S MEETING ON REMOTE SENBUNG (FEB 17-18) IN KINSHASA. (COMMENT. HIGH LEVEL ZAIRIAN OFFICIALS CONFIRMED THIS TO AMB BOLEN. END COMMENT.) AS THE ZAIRE GROUND
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SHETION AND TRAINING AND USE CENTER ARE BASIC COMPONENTS OF THE REGIONAL SYSTEM, ADEDEJI ASKED THAT USAID REEXAMINE THE POSSIBI-LITY OF SUPPORT FOR THIS PROJECT.

2. ADEDEJI THEN TURNED TO UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY TEAMS (UNDATS), RECALLING THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS PROJECT IN WASHINGTON DURING HIS VISIT LAST YEAR. NOW THAT THE JOINT

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UNDP/ECA EVALUATION TEAM REPORT HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS HAD ENDORSED THE UNDATS AS WELL AS CALLED FOR AN INCREASE IN NUMBER, HE ASKED THAT USAID CONSIDER ASSISTANCE TO THEM, ESPECIALLY THE CENTRAL AFRICAN UNDATS. WHILE HE RECOGNIZED THAT FINANCING OF CORE STAFF WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE HE HOPED THAT FUNDS FOR CONSULTANTS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES HE WOULD APPRECIATE AN INDICATIVE FIGURE FOR A MULTI-YEAR PERIOD AS WAS DONE WITH THE GENERAL AGREEMENT.

3. FINALLY ADEDEJI WONDERED WHY THE US WAS NOT SUPPORTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE EAST WEST TRANS-AFRICAN HIGHWAY. BOTH ZAIRE AND THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE REQUIRED ADDITIONAL AID TO COMPLETE THEIR PORTIONS. TOGETHER THEY WILL HAVE SOME 40 PERCENT OF THE HIGHWAY. HE URGED THE US TO CONSIDER ASSISTANCE TO THIS AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.

4. AMBASSADOR BOLEN INDICATED HIS INTEREST IN ALL THREE OF THESE EFFORTS AND PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THEM IN WASHINGTON.

5. COMMENT: ALL THREE OF THESE PROJECTS WERE THE SUBJECTS OF RESOLUTIONS AT THE CONFERENCE. DELEGATIONS VIEW THE REMOTE SENSING AS A VERY IMPORTANT INSTRUMENT IN DISCOVERING AND ASSESSING THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES. PROVIDED THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF UNDATS INCREASE, THEY COULD BECOME SUITABLE MECHANISMS TO ASSIST AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN DEVELOPING VIABLE PROJECTS THEREBY INCREASING THEIR ABSORBTIVE CAPACITY. IN THE AFRICAN VIEW, THE TRANS-AFRICAN HIGHWAY IS CONSIDERED FUNDAMENTAL TO OPENING UP NEW AREAS TO DEVELOPMENT AND TO MAKE POSSIBLE INCREASED INTRA-AFRICAN TRADE.
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770393/aaaadeax.tel
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